

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

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Serial No. (not assigned)

Examiner (not assigned)

Filed concurrently herewith

Art Unit (not assigned)

For GAS OPENING/CLOSING PIN

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant requests entry of the following amendments:

In the Abstract

On page 12, at line 14, delete "FIG. 5".

In the Claims

Please amend claims 5-7 to read as follows (a marked up version of these claims being appended hereto):

- 1 5. A gas opening/closing pin according to claim 1, wherein the gas opening/closing
2 pin is made of a metal.
- 1 6. A gas opening/closing pin according to claim 1, wherein the outer periphery of the
2 upper end portion of the gas opening/closing pin is chamfered.
- 1 7. A gas opening/closing pin according to claim 1, wherein the gas opening/closing
2 pin is made of a nonmetal.

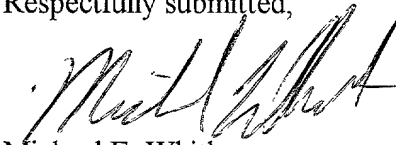
REMARKS

The Abstract has been amended to eliminate extraneous textual material. Figure 5 is the Figure the Applicant desires to have printed on the application.

Claims 5-7 have been amended to eliminate multiple-dependency and to correct a grammatical error. The filing fee should be based on the absence of multiple dependent claims.

The undersigned requests that the filing fee be calculated in accordance with the claims as amended, and that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office proceed immediately to examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael E. Whitham
Reg. No. 32,635

McGuireWoods LLP
1750 Tysons Boulevard
Suite 1800
McLean, VA 22102-4215

703-712-5000

0949230300 62264860

MARKED UP COPY OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS

1 5. A gas opening/closing pin according to [one of claims 1 to 4] claim 1, wherein the
2 gas opening/closing pin is made of a metal.

1 6. A gas opening/closing pin according to [one of claims 1 to 4] claim 1, wherein the
2 outer periphery of the upper end portion of the gas opening/closing pin is
3 chamfered.[.]

1 7. A gas opening/closing pin according to [one of claims 1 to 4] claim 1, wherein the
2 gas opening/closing pin is made of a nonmetal.

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